

FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

Submitted by: Richard E. Adams, California State Parks Forester

Finding: No CAL FIRE Fire Station currently exists in the Lake Tahoe Basin:

This report may recommend the stationing of CAL FIRE fire engines in the Lake Tahoe Basin 24 hours per day, seven days per week, during declared fire season. Should it become necessary to construct a new fire station facility to house CAL FIRE fire engines and staff, it is unknown where such a station could be constructed.

Background and Supporting Evidence:

No CAL FIRE fire engines or fire stations are currently located in the Lake Tahoe Basin. During meetings of the Tahoe Basin Fire Commission, the Basin Fire Chiefs have suggested full time staffing of a CAL FIRE fire station during declared fire season. Although there may be part-time space available at existing local fire stations, construction of a new CAL FIRE fire station may become necessary. Potential locations should be identified to initiate a feasibility study.

The best long-term location for a new CAL FIRE fire station may be on state-owned property, if a suitable location can be determined. If a suitable location could be found on State Park property, a collaborative agreement could be formed between CAL FIRE and State Parks. The prescribed fire program on State Parks could benefit greatly from additional resources provided by CAL FIRE.

A CAL FIRE fire station is currently located on State Park property in Southern California on Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. A similar cooperative arrangement has potential in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Recommendation(s):

Provide state funding for a feasibility study of locating a new CAL FIRE fire station on State Park property or on alternative properties in the Lake Tahoe

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Basin. With support from a completed feasibility study, provide state funding for the construction of a new CAL FIRE fire station.

Impacts of Implementation: *(The implementation of any Recommendation is likely to have specific impacts. Consider potential consequences related to each of the following areas):*

Analysis of impacts on the following factors is REQUIRED (Best Estimate):

- ☐ Cost Cost to complete a feasibility study should be low if existing CAL FIRE staff is utilized. Cost to construct a new CAL FIRE fire station may be high due to the additional permit requirements in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Long-term costs will be lower if a station is located on state property rather than on private property due to savings in rent.
- ☐ Funding source California state budget.
- ☐ Staffing CAL FIRE staffing.
- ☐ Existing regulations and/or laws A feasibility study should cover existing regulations and/or laws and potential for success.

Analysis of impacts on the following factors is OPTIONAL:

- ☐ Operational
- ☐ Social
- ☐ Political
- ☐ Policy
- ☐ Health and Safety
- ☐ Environmental
- ☐ Interagency